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NATO Voice Urged In Any U.S. Troop Cut

President Johnson told his news conference yesterday that the way to handle the question of American troop strength in Europe is through discussion in NATO and not in a Senate resolution.

Replying to a question about the proposal of a group of Senators led by Majority Leader Mike Mansfield (D-Mont.) to reduce American forces, Mr. Johnson said that "every step we take we want to take with the knowledge of our allies, and we would hope with their approval."

He said he knew the sense of the Senate in wanting to bring American troops home, but he asserted that the issue involves not a desire but a question of necessity.

Urges Joint Agreement

The best course for the United States is to collaborate with its allies to determine "what strength is necessary, how to equitably apportion it, and to arrive at a joint agreement," the President said.

Asked about the reported remarks of Chinese Foreign Minister Chen Yi that China wanted no war with the United States, Mr. Johnson said he was "glad to see people feel that there is no reason why they should have a confrontation with us."

He said his Administration would "explore every possibility" to find a way to peace. But when asked about French President de Gaulle's proposal that the United States withdraw its forces from Vietnam, Mr. Johnson said "it is not a one-way street."

Whenever the other side announces its schedule for withdrawal from Vietnam, he said, he also would lay his plan on the table.

EEarlier, the President signed a $300 mililon bill extending the Urban Mass Transit Act and named Leo J. Cusick as Deputy Assistant Secretary of Housing and Urban Development to handle it.

Cusick has been head of the New York City Transit Authority.

The President said that when he considered the problems the legislation was intended to deal with he was "thankful that I work at home."

"Our overburdened and underfinanced mass transportation systems were nearing paralysis" when the act was first approved in 1964, the President said. "Two years have proved its worth."

'Partners in Program'

Under the act, he said, 27 states have become "partners in the mass transit program we began two years ago" and 56 urban areas "have benefitted."

The President also signed the Department of Agriculture appropriations bill, but he said three features in it "deeply disturbed" him.

The measure adds $312 million to the total he requested; it bars aid to nations engaged in any trade with North Vietnam; and it "restricts the authority of the President in proposing a financing plan for agricultural research" next year, he said.

Hospital Planned

MADRID, Sept. 8—Spain plains to build a national hospital for alcoholics at Carabanchel on the outskirts of Madrid, it was announced here.